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# THE AMERICAN.

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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY FEBRUARY 5, 1887.

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#### REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

A T this writing the President has not signed the Inter-State Commerce bill, though he must deal with it before the end of the week, one way or the other, unless he will allow it to become a law without his signature. The chances that he will veto it are very considerable. His course as governor of New York indicates a great amount of consideration for the rights of transportation companies. The great power the bill invests in the commission it creates, and the seeming obscurity of the long and short haul clause, will weigh with him against it. Mr. Garland and Mr. Bayard committed themselves against the principle of the measure when they were members of the Senate, and not a single member of the Cabinet is known to be favorable to it. And the Committee on Legislation of the Knights of Labor have petitioned Mr. Cleveland to exercise his veto power.

On the other hand, it must go very much against the grain with Mr. Cleveland as a politician to veto the measure. To do so will irritate the people of large sections of the country, in which his party is powerful, and large classes who are so hostile to corporations as to welcome almost any measure which promises to limit their powers. It will diminish very distinctly the chance of his renomination. And yet it is not improbable that he will take the risk. Mr. Cleveland is as weak as water in some critical situations. He will sacrifice much of his personal consistency in the bestowal of office and the removal of good officials who do not belong to his party. But he is not without a sturdy if narrow loyalty to such principles as he clearly sees and appreciates; and it is quite probable that this bill will be found to run counter to his convictions. His great mistake is in assuming that such loyalty to certain abstract maxims of public policy is sufficient to entitle him to the public regard and confidence, in the absence of other qualities equally needed in a president.

IT seems probable that our government will find itself constrained to recede from the absurd claim to treat the upper end of the Pacific as national waters. This claim we took over from Russia when we purchased Alaska. But it is in flat contradiction of the principles on which we have acted with regard to the fisheries on the Eastern shore of the continent, and it has been maintained chiefly in the interests of a selfish and unscrupulous fishing company. It was quite absurd to censure Canada for her enforcement of the Treaty of 1818 while we were acting on still more obsolete and narrow doctrines in the Pacific. It is only reasonable that we should retrace our steps, and compensate the Canadian sealing vessels for the damage done them through their seizure by our customs cruisers.

As regards the other dispute, the Canadian government is already finding it necessary to modify its action. It has refunded a heavy fine and dismissed two fishing schooners since that memorable debate in the Senate, and shows in other ways symptoms of a return to reason. The Canadians talk of American partisanship as affecting the question, but the vote of 46 to 1 shows that there are not two parties in this country on this question. In Canada, on the other hand, it has become a party question. The Tories charge upon the Liberals a readiness to concede whatever Americans ask, and the Liberals abstain from approving the highhanded course pursued by Sir John Macdonald's government. The old "loyalist" kernel of the Tory party in Canada always has been glad of an opportunity to slap back at the country from which their fathers fled in the hour of its acknowledged independence; but the Liberals-and notably this is true of Mr. Blake their leader-never have manifested that sort of animus. For this reason we may expect a shift of policy if the Liberals should carry the present election.

THE case of the Bell Telephone Company has come before the Supreme Court of the United States, Judge Gray abstaining from participation because some of his near relations are stockholders in the company. It seems as if the Bell Company were to be obliged to hold the lists against all comers, as the number of contesting companies who appear against it is very considerable, and each claims either priority or independence of its invention. Among the interested opponents of Prof. Bell are Prof. Elisha Gray, Prof. Dolbear, and the representatives of the Drawbaugh claim. Apparently the Bell Company scored a point in regard to the alleged alterations of the specifications of claim for the Bell patent, its counsel being able to show that the alterations were not made in the official papers on file in the Patent Office. But it is too soon to judge of the precise value of this demonstration or of the shape in which the subject will be left by the argument. Judging by some expression from the bench there are varying opinions among the members of the court.

Congress set out with so much virtue and vigor at the opening of the session, that it is painful to find it falling behind again. It has less than four weeks to finish its work, and it shows no disposition to be in a hurry about even the routine legislation, which must be disposed of. Not for years past were the appropriation bills so much in arrears when the session was so near the close.

By a very clever but not very creditable bit of sharp practice, the River and Harbor bill was carried through the Committee of the Whole substantially without discussion of any details. Mr. Nelson, of Minnesota, moved to substitute for the bill a general appropriation of \$7,500,000 for all such works in improving the harbors and water-ways of the country, the money to be expended at the discretion of the Engineer Corps. This very sensible proposition was accepted by the majority, but not in good faith. It was reported back to the House, and then rejected, and the original bill substituted and put upon its passage. In this way no amendments whatever were entertained, and the measure goes to the Senate in just the shape it came from the House Committee. Like every other bill of the sort it is a hotch-potch of good, bad and indifferent proposals, the first predominating. The Senate would do well to substitute Mr. Nelson's proposal to the bill, and send it back to the House, which already has voted its approval of that. In this way the whole subject would be rid of the element of jobbery which now discredits it, and the public money would be expended by responsible experts. This course of procedure would be a saving both of the public money and of the time of

The proposal made by Mr. Blair to send down to the States an amendment to the Constitution establishing woman suffrage has been defeated in the Senate, just as the British House of Lords defeated a similar proposal a few days later. Mr. Blair was reinforced in his efforts by a convention of suffragists, but unfortunately Mr. Conkling was no longer in the Senate to aid him in pleading the cause of his clients. We do not mourn his defeat, and we do wonder at the logic of his plea that the Senate was not voting to approve woman suffrage if it supported his proposal, but only to submit it to the States for their approval or disapproval. By giving Congress a preliminary veto upon all such amendments, the Constitution makes it the duty of Congress to reject such as do not commend themselves to its judgment. Were it to abdicate this power, the country would be flooded with amendments each of which would be permanently before the

country until it was adopted. Under the rulings in the case of the 13th and 14th amendments, an affirmative vote for any amendment counts in its power forever, even though another legislature votes to rescind it; while a negative vote may be set aside by any subsequent legislature. It therefore is an immense advantage to any proposal to have it placed before the State legislatures for their approval, and this advantage ought not to be conferred upon any proposal which does not commend itself decidedly to the approval of both houses of Congress.

THE Senate has done well to order an investigation of the election outrages which are alleged to have been perpetrated in Washington county, Texas. As the charges are brought by reputable white property-owners of the county, who declare they have been driven from their homes by organized ruffianage, it was not consistent with the dignity of the Senate to refuse their petitions. And as Mr. Evarts takes the chairmanship of the subcommittee which is at once to begin the investigation, we may hope to see the matter ably sifted. The Evarts family have been famous always for getting to the bottom facts on a cross-examination.

To offset such charges with regard to the South, the Democrats of the House have voted to unseat Major Pirce, who sits for the second Rhode Island district, on the charge of bribery and intimidation. The charges were not sustained by the evidence, or else the seat would have been given to the Democratic contestant, which it was not. There would have been no room for a contest if the Republican candidate in 1884 had been a man who fully deserved the support of his party. But Mr. Pirce, both by his previous record and by the methods of his nomination, alienated so many voters that his majority was trifling. The Democrat was not a whit better in either respect, and it is to be hoped that the result will rouse the Republicans of Rhode Island to a sense of their need of that unity which comes from making good nominations to office.

Some Southern members of the House used the occasion to denounce or deplore the restriction of the Rhode Island suffrage, in the case of aliens, to property-holders. They did not seem to notice that even under this restriction Mr. Pirce received more than thrice the vote cast for a Congressman in Georgia or in South Carolina.

A BILL has passed the Senate to give the state agricultural colleges \$15,000 each for the establishment of experimental stations. In view of the trifling results from the much larger grants for the establishment of these colleges, there is reason for hesitating before "throwing good money after bad." In New York, it is true, Cornell University has grown out of that endowment, but it hardly would claim to have earned its laurels by training farmers for their profession. In a few other states-New Jersey and North Carolina being instances—the money went to strengthen existing institutions, which have done quite as much for the technical training of farmers as was really demanded by that class. In yet other states it has been wasted in adding one more to the number of illendowed and badly supported colleges, to the hurt of all the rest. The truth is that American farming has not yet generally reached the point of intelligence which calls for the scientific training of farmers. The very men who vote to use these funds to set up agricultural colleges, refuse to send their sons to them. They say: "We do not believe in your scientific farming; but we mean to have a college to which we could send our sons, if we chose to do so."

We regret to see that a movement is made in the courts to deprive the University of North Carolina of the \$125,000 which was given to it under the old grant for agricultural education. It is alleged that this money should be used to establish a distinctly agricultural college. How far will an eighth of a million go in that direction? And when it is established, where are the students to come from? If Pennsylvania cannot fill the ranks of such a

college with a respectable attendance, what will be the case in North Carolina?

MR. RANDALL has got his coalition bill for the reduction of the revenue into shape, and has begun his efforts to get it considered. As Mr. Morrison very justly says, it is already before the House, for it is substantially the measure which Mr. Randall offered last session, and which the Committee of Ways and Means returned with an adverse report. Mr. Randall can move to take up that bill at any time. It differs so little from his latest effort, that the House probably will make no resistance to substituting this for that. And then he can try the strength of his coalition of the friends of free tobacco with the friends of untaxed applejack. But no consistent Republican or Protectionist can support the bill. Its "tariff reform" features are thoroughly objectionable. Mr. Randall proposes to enlarge the free list by entirely removing the duties on several important American products, such as salt and lumber. He does not propose to raise duties above their present level. And he asks the removal of the internal revenue taxes from articles which the common sense of the country regards as excellent subjects for taxation.

Clearly the best policy for the Republicans is to force an extra session of the next Congress, following the example set by the Democrats in 1879. If there be any doubt of the President's readiness to call such a session, the Senate should delay action on some of the appropriation bills, and thus compel the meeting of the new Congress. In a House in which the Democrats have but a dozen majority, the chances of a wise and statesmanlike reduction of the revenue would be much better than they are in this one.

Texas has done very well for herself and for the country by electing Mr. Reagan to the national Senate. It is fifty years since the State was admitted into the Union, but this we believe is the first time that it has been represented in the Senate by a legislator who counted for more than a vote in a division. Certainly since the war its Senators have been of little weight, and have very often been found on the wrong side of great questions, even from a Southern point of view, as witness the course of Messrs. Coke and Maxey on the Blair Bill. Mr. Reagan is not always wise, but he has a taste for grappling with great questions, and a dogged persistence in holding to his ideas, which are of value.

In Indiana Mr. Turpie, the Democratic candidate, was nominally chosen Senator, on Wednesday, the one Democratic Labor member having abandoned his independent attitude. How much this pretended election amounts to, we shall see later. It has been accomplished by two gross acts of partisan irregularity,—the expulsion of a Republican Senator without due process, and in face of the facts of the case; and the deprivation of the duly elected Lieutenant-Governor of the place to which he had been chosen by the people. It is reasonable to suppose that this will cloud the title of Mr. Turpie before the national Senate, and that, besides, the people of the State of Indiana will be increasingly inclined to administer their own rebuke to the proceedings by which he has obtained even this sort of standing.

West Virginia has made no choice of a Senator at this writing. In New Jersey there will be no election for some time, the Republican majority in the Senate having at last "organized" that body, on Tuesday, and so fixed the first legal balloting for the 22d instant.

The great strike of the coal-handlers in Jersey City has extended to the stevedores, longshoremen, and freight-handlers all around New York bay, and has caused the greatest suspension of commerce known in the history of the city. The amount of popular sympathy shown for the strikers at the outset has been diminished somewhat by the great inconveniences and even suffering for want of fuel and other supplies, which have resulted. But in general there has been a notable abstinence from violence, for we cannot hold the workmen responsible for the act of the miscreant

who caused the explosion on one of the Old Dominion Line of steamships.

Those who supposed that the power of the Knights of Labor was broken, have found reason to reconsider that opinion. At the word of the leaders five or six myriads of workmen ceased work at once,—an army far too great to be replaced and most of them interested only indirectly in the success of the strike. Of course the morality of the proceeding is much more open to question than many strikes of ordinary dimensions. To secure the rights of a comparatively small body of men in a single trade, machinery has been set in motion which inflicts serious injury and heavy losses upon employers who have no disagreements with their workmen, and who really can do nothing to influence the employers who provoked the trouble. And the whole community suffers in the increased price of some of the very necessities of life.

But it is not so easy to find a remedy. The Providence Journal demands the enforcement of the conspiracy laws against the leaders, several of whom have been prosecuted under those laws by an embarrassed corporation. But no such prosecution will affect the action of the body of strikers, and to prosecute 50,000 men for "conspiracy in restraint of trade" would be too large an undertaking. The State cannot order the workmen to resume their work, and if it did they would disregard the order. Neither would the enforcement of the laws give any security for the future. It would substitute secret and still more irresponsible leadership for that which now controls these masses. And it would result, as did the same policy in England, in outrages like those of Sheffield.

Some years ago the method of hiring convict labor to contractors was abandoned in New York, and that of employing it in manufactures "on State account" was substituted. In other words the State passed from the method of our Western Penitentiary to that in vogue in the Eastern. But the labor organizations are not satisfied with the result. They find the labor of these slaves of the State is still competing with free labor, since its products come into the same markets. So they propose to limit the labor of convicts to (1) quarrying and road-making; and (2) the manufacture without machinery of articles actually needed and used by the convicts themselves. This approaches very nearly our own plan for the management of prisons; but why not require them to produce all the food consumed in the prisons?

The Legislature of New York has several important measures before it. One of these is to extend the laws against conspiracy so as to subject to severe penalties any society or incorporation which agrees to limit the quality and raise the price of any necessary of life which is brought into the State. This would affect the capitalist class chiefly, and would help to disgust them with conspiracy laws. Another, which is said to emanate from Tammany Hall, limits the profits of certain great corporations to ten per cent. a year, and requires the payment of any excess into the State treasury. It is said that this is meant to restore Tammany to that popularity with the laboring classes which it lost by the rise of Mr. George's influence. No such law could stand in the United States Supreme Court, unless that body is ready to reverse the Dartmouth College decision. And if it could, it would lead only to endless and ingenious evasions. Nor would it meet the views of the working classes, as its only effect would be to lighten the burdens of taxation now borne by the property-owners, without adding anything to the laborer's income. A law to compel corporations to divide the surplus of profits among their workmen would be much more useful to Tammany.

Senator Low proposes to assimilate the taxation system of the State to that of Pennsylvania. In the matter of cheapness and certainty of collection, the Pennsylvania system is the best. But if we regard State and local taxation together, we find that it throws by far too heavy a burden upon real estate, and thus discourages the acquisition of a form of property whose general dif-

fusion is a matter of public policy. Land brings less returns than other forms of property, and yet it bears all but a small percentage of our taxation. We really approach more nearly to Mr. George's idea than does any other American commonwealth.

The Telegraph of this city takes exception in discourteous and not uncharacteristic style to a recent article in The American on "Free Ships." It is our contemporary's misfortune that it has not paid any attention to our previous discussion of the subject, and so assumes that we have said nothing about it which is not contained in that article. We assumed that "the court knows something," and that it was not necessary to repeat for the twentieth time that our registration is not open to vessels of foreign build. But we do insist that this restriction constitutes no effectual barrier to the purchase and ownership of vessels of foreign build, as is shown by the fact that not less than three lines of ocean steamships of foreign build are now owned by Americans, besides the whole or part of a great number of single vessels. For this last statement we have the authority of a Philadelphia importing house, which itself has property of this kind. How much or how many of the ships coming to our ports under the British flag are owned by American capital cannot be known until England, like Belgium, makes such ownership entirely legal. Her own interest as a shipbuilding and ship-selling nation loudly calls for such a change in her laws.

Our contemporary, like all the advocates of the opening of our registration to vessels of foreign build, confounds that question with this other of the American purchase and ownership of vessels of foreign build. The two questions are entirely distinct. A ship, we repeat, is the one article of foreign build and workmanship which not only can be but actually is purchased, owned and used in this country without the slightest restriction from our laws. It is true that such ships are excluded from our coasting trade,—the only substantial business advantage we refuse them. But even the New York Evening Post has repudiated, on behalf of the Free Traders, the wish to admit them to the coasting-trade.

What our contemporary quotes from Lieut. Kelley refers merely to the conditions which attach to the admission of vessels to our registration. Of all that we are aware. The law passed in George Washington's administration, and left untouched by all parties and though all vicissitudes of our fiscal policy, does refuse registration to vessels of foreign build. But that it constitutes no protective or prohibitory restraint upon the purchase of ships by Americans is proved by the extent to which such purchases have been made, and not made in defiance of any American law. These facts are probably crambe ter cocta to the readers of The Americans. But they may have some freshness for the readers of The Telegraph.

Comment once a week is much too slow to keep up with the kaleidoscope of Philadelphia politics. Since last week Colonel Banes has withdrawn as a candidate for Mayor, and his associates on the Democratic ticket, Messrs. Hunter and Olmsted, have also stepped down. In place of Colonel Banes, the Democratic convention "endorsed" the independent candidacy of ex-Sheriff Keim, a Republican, who wanted the nomination of his own party a month ago. Anything more farcical and puerile has never been seen in this city in connection with affairs of real importance, and Mr. Randall's local lieutenants come out of the business with reputations for political ability sadly damaged. As things now stand, the opposition to Mr. Fitler will be scarcely formal.

There is indication of the rise of a third party in Canada, which may hold the balance of power between Tories and Liberals. The resignation of Mr. Chapleau from the Macdonald ministry on the eve of an election, and the declaration of *The Mail* of Toronto that it has ceased to be the organ of either party, are regarded as signs of the times. The new party probably will take the name of Nationalists, and will set up the independence of Canada as the goal of its efforts. It will enjoy a large support among the French of Quebec, and will be strong also in portions of On-

tario, especially the cities. In its view Canada gets no sort of fair play inside the empire, and would do much better to cut "the silken rein" of English suzerainty. They say that such a controversy as that now pending with the United States is sure to be settled by Great Britain with reference to British rather than Canadian interests, while the Dominion is treated by us all the more harshly because we dislike Great Britain.

The new party will be charged with favoring annexation to the United States, but quite unfairly. We do not want Canada, and the Canadians do not want us. We have quite enough of responsibilities on our hands, without undertaking those which burden Canada. But when the Canadians are ready to propose a customs union of the two countries, we shall be ready to meet them half-way.

The opening of the British Parliament is attended with the usual formalities, nearly the most unmeaning of which is the Queen's speech. That of this year told Parliament simply nothing that was not known already, and its only important expression of opinion—that there was good hope of peace in Europe—was contradicted by the Premier as soon as the army estimates came up for discussion.

Of course the problems of coercing Ireland inside and outside Parliament were put forward. The plan is substantially to increase the speaker's power. No member is to move the adjournment of the House without the speaker's consent previously given. Any member who has had the speaker's consent may move to terminate the debate peremptorily. In this way some forms of obstruction will be made impossible, but not all. The opposition still will be able to keep the House voting on proposals to reduce an appropriation one pound, two pounds, and so on indefinitely.

As to coercion outside the House, the Tories are quite ingenious. They do not propose to pass any special law for Ireland, but only to modify the course of criminal procedure for all three kingdoms at once, by authorizing the government to summon special jurors, to change the venue at pleasure, and so forth. If the democracy of Great Britain is wide awake to the meaning of this proposal, it will be ill for the Tories to have put it forward. In any future case of collision between the Tory government and the people, the law would be used without stint to put down popular resistance.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL is playing the part of enfant terrible to perfection. His defence of his resignation at the opening of Parliament was rather weak, as he was not free to impugn the general Bourbonism of the party leaders, and was obliged to make his action depend on the quarrel over the estimates. But his first speech is only a beginning of his asperities, and he has redeemed its feebleness by criticisms whose vigor extorts admiration from even The Standard. He makes himself the mouthpiece of undiluted Tory contempt for "the Unionist crutch" in a way which does not promise much peace for that very superior person Mr. George Jacob Goschen, when he at last arrives in the House.

Mr. Goschen's defeat at Liverpool was not much of an achievement, as the Home Rule Liberals carried the same district last year by a greater majority. But it constitutes Mr. Goschen's second defeat in his effort to find a seat in this Parliament, and keeps him out of the House through the opening and perhaps most exciting debates of the session, when the Tories would have much need of him. It is not quite certain that he may not be defeated again, unless some member for a strongly Tory district shall make way for him. And this is just what the Tory members hate to do, as it also is a mortification to George Jacob himself to creep in in such a manner.

The report of the Tory Commission on the nature and causes of the business depression, of which Lord Iddesleigh was chairman, does credit to the economic orthodoxy of that eminent Peelite. It declares that things are by no means so bad as they are represented, and that the change which has taken place has been

rather a gain than a loss. The volume of English business has increased; the national wealth has grown faster than the population. Capital has benefited less, but labor has benefited more than before the hard times set in. A more equal distribution has been attained of the joint-earnings of capital and labor. We hope this rosy view of the English situation will be sustained by the experience of English workmen, but we doubt it. They certainly have not found their condition more tolerable than it was fifteen years ago. But if it be as the Commission reports, the result as directly impugns English political economy, which teaches that with the growth of numbers the inequality of condition must increase also, and that the wages of labor must fall while the profits of capital and the rent of land must rise.

The depth of the impression made in England by the cruel evictions at Glenbeigh, in Ireland, is shown by the declaration of The Standard (Tory) that any coercion legislation must be accompanied by a grant of power to the government to refuse to aid in-iniquitous evictions. It says that there are Irish landlords "who have not behaved with any show of respect for the commonplaces of equity, and who have done gross wrong to those whose lives even depended on their forbearance. Such landlords have no right to be supplied by the government with the means of carrying out the decrees granted them by strict process of law."

The prospects of peace are said to be somewhat better, although Europe feels the cold shivers go down its back every other morning as it reads its newspapers. It is said that negotiations have been opened between France and Germany for the restoration of the armies to a peace footing. On the side of France this must include the retirement of Gen. Boulanger to private life, as it is the presence of this theatrical general at the war office which chiefly alarms Germany. If England can accomplish so much by her mediation, she will be entitled to the gratitude of mankind. She herself shows a desire to concede something for peace by assenting to a temporary regency in Bulgaria, which will not be objectionable to Russia.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY AND CIVIL LIBERTY.

THE case of Dr. McGlynn in New York excites an unusual degree of interest, because it is felt to be an illustration of a danger which affects American society. If the pastor of St. Stephen's church had been summoned to Rome for unsound teaching on the subject of the Trinity or some other matter of doctrine, the public interest in the subject would have been very languid indeed. It would have been regarded as a family affair, with which outsiders had nothing to do, and his recalcitrancy would have roused no such sympathy as has been shown from all parts of the country. It is the fact that Archbishop Corrigan places Dr. McGlynn under censure for the part he took in a political campaign, and obtained his summons to Rome on grounds which seem more political than anything else, which makes the case novel and yet interesting as possibly typical. It is said: "This is the beginning. What will the end be? How long will it be before the Archbishops and Bishops of this powerful Church will be discovering the presence of moral issues underlying other political controversies, and calling upon the faithful by their loyalty to the Church to vote on the side the Church-i. e., the hierarchy-approves of?"

It is quite true that the Roman Catholic Church disclaims all interference with its members in the free discharge of their purely political duties. Leo XIII. has just refused to whip in the Roman Catholic voters of South Germany to vote for Prince Bismarck's candidates and policy. Bishop Fessler, the Secretary of the Vatican Council, in his "True and False Infallibility," censures a long series of Popes for meddling with purely political questions, and declares that questions of faith and morals alone fall within their province as teachers of the whole Church. And his pamphlet bears the endorsement of Pius IX. But the line between political questions and moral questions is hard to draw, and the Church al-

ways is disposed to draw it in such a way as to extend the sphere of her own authority. Many of the Popes censured by Bishop Fessler would have made out an ingenious case to show that moral questions were at stake in their battles with the kings and emperors they professed to censure. Both Pius IX, and Leo XIII, regard the occupation of Rome by the kingdom of Italy as an offence against morals, while the world generally regards it as a political question purely. They have treated the temporal power of the Popes as a piece of private property, and its transfer against their will, even with the consent of the Roman people, as an act of robbery. The world generally holds that the right of a government rests neither on musty deeds of grant from extinct dynasties, nor on long historical traditions, but on the present consent of the governed and the consensus of the public interests. The Papacy admits this readily enough in the case of other rulers. It recognizes the rights of the House of Brunswick to the British throne, although the Stuart dynasty still is represented by the House of Modena. But it refuses to apply the same measure to the House of Savoy.

So in our own politics, it is very easy to make out an ethical case which would justify the interference of the church for the direction of votes. For instance, the slavery problem of the last generation involved issues to which no Christian Church could be indifferent. Either the anti-slavery party were assailing the rights of property as distinctly as Mr. Henry George and Dr. McGlynn have assailed them, or they were assailing a wicked denial of human rights to human beings. In either case an ethical question underlay the political question, and any Roman Catholic-be he priest or layman-laid himself open to church censure for taking an active part. It did not suit the Corrigans of that day to take so active a part as has been taken against Dr. McGlynn. But the logic of the case demanded that they should, and the silence of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in that case condemns their activity in the present one.

So again the school question is a political issue which involves or is said to involve moral and religious issues. There are those who think religious teaching a necessary part of every good system of school instruction, and who therefore sympathize in so far with the Roman Catholic protest against the secularization of education. But on the other hand there are those who think that the two lines of teaching may be kept separate, and religious training confined to church, Sunday-school and the household. But a Roman Catholic, priest or layman, who takes this view and acts upon it, as a voter or an office-holder, lays himself open to direct or indirect censure, even though he send his children to a parish school. It is only a few months since Archbishop Corrigan refused to allow a distinguished layman to be buried from St. Patrick's Cathedral, because he had acted upon views opposed to those of the Church in this matter.

It is cases like these which make the American people regard with distrust the active intrusion of hierarchical influence into our politics, and to ask where and by whom the line is to be drawn between what the Church regards as her concern, and what she does not so regard. And the alarm is the greater when it is found that Roman Catholic congregations—with a very few exceptions-have been obliged to divest themselves of all rights of property in their own houses of worship, and to transfer these to the bishops before dedication. It is seen that a check has been placed in this way upon freedom of action, and upon the independence of the laity, such as is unknown even in Europe for the

We are not alarmists. We do not fear the overthrow of our liberties by any churchly influence from whatever quarter. We have faith enough in our fellow-citizens of the Roman Catholic Church to believe they will maintain their personal freedom of action against all such encroachments. But for that very reason we sympathize with the spirited resistance which the parishioners of St. Stephen's have displayed in standing by their pastor. It shows the true American grit.

#### THE PROHIBITION AMENDMENT.

THE Pennsylvania Legislature is proceeding without delay in the process of submitting a prohibitory amendment to popular vote. The Senate has already passed the resolution, the vote on second reading being 30 to 12, of whom three in the affirmative. (Betts, McAteer, and Wilson), were Democrats, and one in the negative, (Reyburn), was a Republican. In the House there will be proportionately even less opposition.

The provisions of the constitution as to amendments are these: (1) that a resolution to amend shall pass both houses by a majority vote, in each, of all the members elected thereto; (2) that the resolution shall then be published, three months before the next general election, in at least two newspapers in every county in the State; (3) that the legislature chosen thereat shall again pass it, in the same manner as the first one; (4) that publication shall again be made, in the manner stated; and (5) that the people, at an election held at least three months after the second passage by the Legislature, shall by a majority of those voting approve the

It is easy to see that the approval of this Legislature is but the first, and much the easiest step. A far more severe test will come in the election of members of the Legislature two years hence. If at the session of 1889 the resolution be not again adopted, the present approval goes for nothing. And beyond all is the popular vote, which cannot take place earlier than the Spring of 1889, and would probably occur, in case of the second approval by the Legislature, at the November election of that year. How Pennsylvania would vote on the question nobody can confidently predict. The cities would roll up a heavy opposition to the amendment beyond a doubt, for the more conspicuous influences in favor of liquor drinking would be reinforced by that strong undercurrent of people in private life who wish the customs of their dinner table to be left undisturbed, and by another numerous class who desire to reduce intemperance to its minimum but think prohibition an unavailing means to that end. Many counties in the State, however, would support the amendment. The force of the temperance feeling has been growing steadily in the agricultural regions, and a large part of the State, along the Ohio line, and on the border of New York, has its politics dominated by this sentiment.

When it becomes safe for a member of the Legislature to oppose Liquor and unsafe for him to oppose Temperance, there is a plain path before him. In the present Legislature the conviction that the submission of an amendment is necessary could be shaken by no possible influence. The declaration of the State Convention in favor of it, and the success of the Republican ticket upon that declaration, settled the matter. What will be done now is therefore perfectly certain, but what will be done in the nominations and elections of 1888, the legislative deliberations of 1889, and the popular vote, if the amendment should reach that stage, is subject for speculation only.

#### SENATOR BENTON.1

HE personality of Benton was sufficiently picturesque, and his Part in public affairs sufficiently conspicuous to entitle him to a place in this series of biographies. Indeed, the comparison which might be made for him with figures like Monroe, or John Randolph, or even Albert Gallatin,—all of whom have had their separate vol-umes,—would be altogether to his credit. For he was a robust, energetic, and mostly sensible man, who played an important and an influential part for the space of a full generation in the real business of the American nation. Representing the live and aggressive "West"—not in its "border ruffian" types, but its Rocky gressive "West"—not in its "border ruflian" types, but its kocky Mountain exploration, its Lewis and Clarke expedition, its struggle for Oregon, its Santa Fé trail trading temper,—he was its representative in the best way possible to the circumstances. He held the West firmly to the Union, and brought its successive growths each in turn under the national flag.

Benton was the son of a North Carolina lawyer, and was born near Hillsborough, in Orange county, in 1782. In his minority he

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Life of Thomas Hart Benton. By Theodore Roosevelt. ("American Statesmen" Series.) Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

upon the nation.

removed with his widowed mother to the neighborhood of Nashville, Tennessee, and from there, after the War of 1812, pushed on to St. Louis. Missouri was then a frontier Territory, the only ground held by our white civilization west of the Mississippi. It ground held by our white civilization west of the Mississippi. It was, indeed, completely isolated, except as it clung to the line of its river front, for along both its flanks, as upon its Western border, there were only the wild wastes where the Indians roamed. From Missouri, as soon as she became a State, under the operation of the famous "Compromise" of 1820, Benton came into the United States Senate, and there he remained continuously for five full terms. No other man has ever sat for thirty years consecutively in that body, and it is highly doubtful whether any one ever will do so again. His career is therefore unique. It was, indeed, substantially the whole of his public service. He had sat during a single session in the Legislature of Tennessee, before removing to Missouri, and after he had been defeated for reelection to the Senate, in 1850, by the pro-slavery faction in his own party, he served one term in the national House of Representatives,—a descent almost pitiable, for him,—and this was all. A Senator he was, and that alone. It was upon the senatorial model that he formed himself. He thought of himself always as standing in the Senatehouse, and he wrapped his heroic figure perpetually in the togathat belonged to his station. His speeches, though of the Western type in their vigor, their directness, and their earnestness, were usually florid and often grandiloquent,—though they were not those of an ignorant man, for besides some education in his youth, those of an ignorant man, for besides some education in his youth, he was a persistent reader and the companion of well-informed men. His store of knowledge was extensive and various: upon the geography, the history, and the natural conditions of the great territories which came to the possession of the United States by the purchases from France and Spain, by the Oregon settlement with England, and by the results of the Mexican War, he was an authority whose dictum would hardly be disputed.

Col. Benton's Congressional career had one conspicuous feature—it was consistent. He had much pride of opinion, and he had more than that,—a constitutional habit of persistency. The most prominent fact in his public life, as it now stands displayed, was his opposition to the Fire-Eater politicians and their conspiracy. In early life he had denounced the Hartford Convention for its covert threat of disunion, and when positions were changed and

its covert threat of disunion, and when positions were changed and the radicals of the South struck at the national ties, his own posi-tion remained without change. Not his Southern birth, nor his representation of a Southern State, nor his slave-holding interests prevailed to sweep him into the Secession current. An upholder of the Union he set out to be, and a Union man he continued to the end. Calhoun he quarreled with early, and for years con-tended with him in the Senate. The States Rights coterie, indeed, he opposed throughout all the long struggle from Nullification days down to the so-called Compromise of 1850. Thus, in John Quincy Adams's Diary, is this allusion to a tilt between Benton and

McDuffie:

"1844, June 15. . . . . While the House was in its Babel state, this morning, I went for a long hour into the Senate chamber, where I found George McDuffie closing a violent and rancorous speech against Thomas Hart Benton and his bill for the annexation."

[Portray of Portray of Portra tion of Texas. . . [Benton's] reply of about one hour was so merciless and personal that nothing but bodily fear could have with held the hand of McDuffie from a challenge; but he put up with

it, quiet as a lamb."

This, indeed, is Benton's greatest merit—his resolute resistance to the infamous scheme of Slavery domination and national dissolution. Other Southern Democrats accepted, servilely or re-luctantly, the shameful yoke, but Benton spurned it and de-nounced it. He lived to see the first gleam of reäwakened Free-dom, on the Kansas prairies, but he had himself been struck down by the extremists of his own party in 1850, and 1854, and had been

made to drink deep of the waters of personal humiliation.

In the present work Mr. Roosevelt presents a lively and In the present work Mr. Roosevelt presents a lively and entertaining narrative, though he adds comparatively few facts to the ordinary details of a good encyclopedia biography of Benton. He probably consulted no original authorities, and his book is therefore made up of his own views upon the historical period from 1820 to 1850, with the main facts of Benton's career accompanying the review. Some of his ideas will perhaps strike the unbiased reader as more bumptious than pertinent, and more dogmatic than sensible. Thus he avers that the "ruffianism" of the border, in the early days, "was really not a whit worse in its effects on the national character than was the case with certain of effects on the national character than was the case with certain of effects on the national character than was the case with certain of the 'univeral peace' and 'non-resistance' developments in the Northeastern States; in fact it was more healthy; . . . in the long run, a Quaker may be quite as undesirable a citizen as is a duelist." After this deliverance, we are not unprepared to hear from him a eulogium of the outcome of the ruffianism and dueling, in the assumption that they produced in the South a more determined army of fighting men than the North could furnish.

To a "decline in the militant spirit in the Northeast," he declares, is due, more than to any other cause, the undoubted average individual inferiority of the Northern compared to the Southern troops; at any rate at the beginning of the war."

As Mr. Roosevelt, (not through any fault of his own), did not serve on either side during the War of the Rebellion, his view on this question is perhaps less valuable than that of a participant of equal perception and judgment, and it is fairly beyond doubt, we think, that this flippant dictum is as false in its conclusion as it is fallacious in the reasoning from which it proceeds. Perhaps its author might study to advantage the personal records of the national army,—say those in Memorial Hall at Cambridge, or General Walker's just published annals of the Second Corps. Evidently he does not know the case, though a sympathy with border ruf-fianism and a preference for the "cow-boy" type might, even fianism and a preference for the "cow-boy" type might, even with greater knowledge, prevent a fair comparison of the Northern soldier with a duelist from Natchez-under-the-Hill, or a "half-hoss, half-alligator" from Arkansas. Perhaps, however, he might perceive, in looking over his own book, that the very men who took the political life of Thomas H. Benton were of this excellent took the political life of Thomas H. Benton were of this excellent sort: for adherence to the Union, they struck him down. If, as a sociological proposition, Mr. Roosevelt desires to breed and maintain the bowie-knife citizenship, in order to have fighting men always "handy," then the logic of his biography of Benton is of no value, and the statesman who defended the Union must be degraded to make way for those whose sectional hatreds and semicivilized habits of life made them fight the fiercest in their attack when the retion

#### THE PENNSYLVANIA BIBLIOGRAPHY.

MR. HILDEBURN has completed his exhaustive bibliography of Pennsylvania in two volumes that are creditable alike to his industrious research, and to the history of Penn's Commonwealth. He describes in more or less detail forty-seven hundred separate issues of the press in the hundred years he covers, and has unearthed a great deal of curious and interesting information, of value to all students of American literature. His work is far more for any other state of the Union, and it deserves acknowledgment for its detail, its precision and its accuracy. It is an interesting commentary on both local and general history, and shows the steady growth of the press from small beginnings. Philadelphia was both the literary and the social capital of the colonies before it became the political centre, and the issues of its press therefore represent much more than merely local authorship of books. As the place where the first Bible in German and English was printed in America, where the first school books were issued, where the newspapers were first thoroughly established, where Franklin's Almanacs and other writings first reached a number of copies beyond that of local buyers, where the earliest American reprints of Milton and the lesser poets, of Blackstone and other law writers, of Holmes and the early American historians, first appeared, where American medical and scientific books were first printed, Philadelphia naturally supplies a large amount of material for American bibliography. The productions of the local press in other parts of Pennsylvania too here find full description. Thus the curious works issued in Germantown by Sauer, in Bethlehem by the Moravians, at Ephrata by the cloistered Protestants, and in other quiet nooks and corners, where Penn's religious liberality gave liberty to all sects, are all entered in due order. Each decade had its own productions, and English, German, Dutch, Latin,

and French were all used in these early works.

It is an additional interesting evidence of the liberty of the press in Pennsylvania that Philadelphia was freely used on the title pages of books printed in England, in Germany, in France, and even in Russia, as if the imprint could secure exemption from and even in Russia, as it the imprint could secure exemption from the strict censorship of European countries. These issues too find their proper place in Mr. Hildeburn's pages. The early Almanacs, from those of Leeds in 1686 down to 1745, Atkins's in 1685, Eaton's in 1688, Franklin's from 1732 to 1784; the first American magain 1688, Franklin's from 1732 to 1784; the first American magazines, the issues of the early newspapers, the imprints of Janssen, the Bradfords, Zenger, the first Latin and Greek books printed in America, all find their proper place in these volumes. The first Roman Catholic prayer books, the first religious history, that of the Baptists, of which the first volume was printed in 1770, the second in 1792, and the third still remains in manuscript, and the Moravian translations into the Indian languages, are all part of the history of printing in Pennsylvania. The signs of the times are shown in the issues of the press: thus John Dickinson's "Farmer's Letters," which contributed very largely to bring on the Revolution, produced a greater sensation than anything ever the Revolution, produced a greater sensation than anything ever before printed in the colonies. They appeared simultaneously in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A CENTURY OF PRINTING. The Issues of the Press of Pennsylvania, 1635-1784. By Charles R. Hildeburn, 2 vols. 8vo. Philadelphia: 1886.

his Philadelphia newspapers in twelve issues, beginning on December 3, 1767. They were promptly reprinted in nearly all the twenty-five papers then published on the continent, and were said in the French edition to have been reprinted in thirty editions within six months. Eight at least are known to have been printed in America, two in London, and one in Dublin.

#### THE WINTER NEST.

Walf upon the wintry snow,
Liest thou, alas, so low?
All thy tenants flown!
Would they grieve to see thee now,
Riven from the naked bough,
Void, and overthrown?

Where the happy, harmless pair That with toil and tender care Built thee for their home? Where the eager nestlings all? Doth no shadow of thy fall O'er the absent come?

Nay, forgotten and forlorn!
Never shall the warmth return
Of thy summer state:
Wrecked and comfortless thou art,
As a hope-abandoned heart,
Cold and desolate.

JOHN B. TABB.

#### WEEKLY NOTES.

A N accident of a sort that every railroad passenger must have seen, at one time or another, to be easily possible, occurred on the Chicago, Burlington and Quiney road on Monday. It was, simply, that an express train was "blocked" by a disabled freight train, and a switchman was sent back to signal a following local train. Before it came up, however, he was called in, the freight obstruction being removed, and while he was coming in, the local dashed up, ran into the express, and wrecked it. The fact is that at this very time in every such affair,—i. e., when the flagman is returning to his place,—the stationary train has no protection, while, of necessity, the danger to it of a train approaching from the rear has increased with every minute of detention. It happened, in this instance, that no one was killed.

An appeal is made by the Committee on legal assistance to the Indians, appointed at the Lake Mohonk Conference, for aid in defending the rights of the Mission Indians of California. The case of these people is particularly hard. They are the descendants of Indians who occupied their present holdings of land back beyond the Mexican transfer to us,—from the time, indeed, of the Spanish missions on the Pacific Coast. On broad ground, and by a resolute contest, there is little doubt that their rights can be maintained in the courts, though it will probably take a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States to settle the matter,—but unless they are helped by good people they are likely to be dispossessed on technical grounds by California claimants. The whole case, with all its claims on the sympathy of the public, was set forth very fully in Helen Hunt Jackson's official report to the government in 1883, and appears measurably in her book, "Ramona." We can hardly believe it possible that the Committee will be left to make the contest without the help they need. Their names are Philip C. Garrett, of this city, Moses Pierce, Norwich, Conn.; Joshua W. Davis, Boston; and Austin Abbott and Elliott F. Sheppard, New York City.

WE print one or two passages from the Committee's statement of the case. Referring to the expulsion of an old Indian, named Rogerio, from the land he had long occupied, (and probably had owned by a perfectly sufficient title), the circular says:

"This sad story is told, not for the sake of Rogerio, for his case is without remedy, but to call attention to the fact that the title by which some five or six hundred other Mission Indians in Southern California, Christian, civilized, and self-supporting, hold their homes, is to-day in like jeopardy, and unless steps are taken at once to prevent it, they will soon meet a similar fate.

and unless steps are taken at once to prevent it, they will soon meet a similar fate.

"A suit has been pending in the Court of San Diego County for the ejectment of some two hundred of these same Mission Indians from the San Jacinto grant,—the Saboba case, the first mentioned by Mrs. Jackson in Exhibit B of her report. Government appointed counsel to defend them, and afterward refused to allow them even their necessary expenses. The case went against the Indians by default, but was restored to the calendar, and counsel again appointed at the earnest request of the Indian Rights Association. But the Government attached to this appointment the condition that

this service should be without compensation. This Association, from a special gift of a Boston lady for the purpose, guaranteed compensation, and the Government special counsel then took up the case, which had been decided against the Indians. Appeal has been taken to the Supreme Court of the State, and it is proposed to carry it, if necessary, to the Supreme Court of the United States."

What is curious about the matter is the course of the government. Why this shuffling and shambling? Why appoint special counsel and leave them unpaid, and then, apparently for shame's sake, appoint again, but provide that they shall get no compensation?

Mr. Goldwin Smith, discomposed by Senator Ingalls's declaration that England bullies weak nations and truckles to strong ones, demands, with an air of confidence, whether he does not think it odd, in view of the real permanence of race characteristics, that "of two portions of the same race that have only been separated for a single century, one should be a mass of ruffianism, cowardice, bullying, insolence, and everything else that is vile, while the other has arrived at such a pitch of virtue, civilization, chivalry and urbanity as to produce Mr. Ingalls." While the sarcasm in this is very fine, the logic is worthless, from the simple fact that Mr. Ingalls did not,—and we presume would not,—make his assault on the English people, but on those who have ruled them. His criticism is of England as a government—of her classes, not her masses. And if Mr. Smith wishes to appear as the defender of his native land's record toward other countries, he would do well to put himself in training at once.

THE complaints of ocean passengers about the doings of the gamblers on the great steamers seem to increase. Mr. Smalley, in a London dispatch this week, says: "A strong protest is published by thirteen passengers by the Cunard steamship Umbria against the tolerance of systematic gambling on that ship during her last voyage. Facts are given of one incident nearly ending in suicide, and of another ending in threats of murder. This turning the smoking rooms of Atlantic liners into gambling hells has long been a practice, and not on Cunarders only."

There is not one of our excellent charities which has higher claims upon the people of Philadelphia than the Children's Aid Society. The object of the society is to rescue the great body of neglected children in this city and throughout the State from the life of sordid and hopeless wretchedness in which they are found, by securing them homes and education. It has succeeded in arousing the people of a great majority of the counties to a proper interest in these helpless waifs,—a work so extensive and beneficent as to have well deserved the reference made to it in Governor Beaver's inaugural message. The Society proceeds upon the highest and the most humane ideas as to the proper care of such children. It does not gather them into great barracks misnamed "homes," but secures their reception into families, and exercises a careful supervision over them to see that they are properly cared for, and have all the opportunities of moral and mental growth which fall to children generally. Its success in this respect has been most gratifying, and is due very largely to the excellent work of its agents.

cellent work of its agents.

We are sorry to learn that the Society is in need of funds to sustain its work. If any of our readers will call on the Secretary, Mrs. Wilson, at the office in Twelfth St., they can satisfy themselves as to its claims to all the support it requires.

### REVIEWS.

Co-operation in a Western City. By Albert Shaw, Ph. D., Associate Editor of the Minneapolis Daily Tribune. Author of "Icaria; a Chapter in the History of Communism." Pp. 106. (Publication of the American Economic Association. Vol. I. No. 4.)

CO-OPERATIVE distribution has made an extremely brilliant record in Great Britain, and a somewhat brilliant one in this country and in Germany. But coöperative production has accomplished very much less, although very great things have been hoped from it. "Every man his own shopkeeper" seems an ideal not incapable of realization; but "Every man his own employer" is about as far off as it was forty years ago. Coöperative production is capable of application only to a few trades, and seems to require specially favorable conditions. An exceptional instance of its success is found in the business of making barrels for the great flour mills of Minneapolis. It is the application of coöperation to this that Mr. Shaw describes in this pamphlet. He sees that it "has the advantage of being a simple, old-fashioned trade, in which each man does the same work and finishes the product, and in which labor rather than capital has the chief relative importance." Yet he seems to agree with the persons engaged in this

work that other trades, such as the making of shoes, of house carpentry, clothing, hats and furniture are equally available for cooperative production. We should heartily hope that this might be found true: but we are not very confident of it. And we think it quite impossible that this method should supersede the present or some similar relation of capital and labor. Yet Mr. Shaw is able to describe a number of similar enterprises among painters, laundrymen, and some minor enterprises, including a cooperative agricultural colony. Indeed there seems to be in this young and growing city a spirit of cooperation generally, which promises to make it a centre of sociological interest. And we observe that both Minneapolis and its sister city St. Paul have been taking a lesson from our building associations. Mr. Shaw writes:

"The remarkable success of these associations in Philadelphia and throughout Pennsylvania has attracted wide attention. It is

"The remarkable success of these associations in Philadelphia and throughout Pennsylvania has attracted wide attention. It is less generally known, however, that what I may call the Philadelphia plan of coöperative banking has been extensively adopted in Western towns and cities. Several of the most flourishing building and loan associations to be found anywhere in the country are established in the neighboring cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul; and they have been instrumental in providing many hundreds of workingmen's families with pleasant homes of their own. The people of Philadelphia enjoy the distinction of being more comfortably housed than those of any other large city of the world, and it is said that in no other city do so many families own thouses in which they live. The agency of the building and loan associations in producing this fortunate state of things has been very great. Among Western cities Minneapolis deserves a first rank as a city of homes. In no other city, not excepting Philadelphia, are the homes of the people so spacious and so attractive architecturally. Visitors to Minneapolis frequently ask where the poor people live. It is not easy for them to realize that the picturesque and roomy cottages with their bay-windows, ornamented gables and bits of lawnare the homes of workingmen. It is highly interesting to observe the influence of local habit and sentiment upon the external forms of a city's growth. The new-comer soon discovers that it is the ruling ambition of the average Minneapolitan to have a home of his own and as good a one as he can afform for several years about three thousand houses have been built annually, a large proportion of them to be occupied at once, or eventually, by the owner himself."

The largest building association is organized of Roman Catholics, chiefly Irishmen, and has assets amounting to more than half a million of dollars; and there are seven others in that city, and forty in St. Paul, to which the idea was taken from Philadelphia by Mr. Theodore Sander in 1869.

We may congratulate the new Economic Association on the solid value of this contribution to economic science.

A YEAR IN EDEN. By Harriet Waters Preston. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

Dr. Huntington, the octogenarian pastor of Pierpont, a pleasant, well-to-do New England village, lies dead at the opening of the story called "A Year in Eden." For sixty years he has led his people, through the Land of Promise, as it might be said; governing their intellectual impulses, dominating their material in stincts, and satisfying all their spiritual needs. He began as an orthodox minister; then gradually abjured dogmas and creeds, until finally revealed religion became to him an extinct message, a thought whose day was over. There was no loss—rather a quickening—of high religious sense in the apostle, but he ceased, and taught his people to cease, talking idly about God: he proclaimed no scheme of salvation: he put no compulsion upon others to worship or to pray, or to do more than develop the noblest possibilities which lay in their own nature. He tried, indeed, to bring to its ideal consummation the everyday, cordial, loving, happy life possible to men and women who help one another, all laboring to the same end of goodness. So potent was the old pastor's grandeur and simplicity of character to influence others that so long as he lived he drew all his people after him by this guiding spiritual force. Naturally such teachings, almost wholly independent of dogmas and ordinances, involved far-reaching consequences, and Miss Preston's book conceives the mental, moral and social attitude of a whole community, who, after having had all their thinking done for them throughout their lives, while they tried to live up to an imperfectly conceived standard of intellect and morality, are suddenly left to their own unaided reason and judgment. The picture of a New England village is very carefully filled up with innumerable fine touches which come from a knowledge of the place described which must have grown with the writer's growth and strengthened with her strength. The story is very thoughtfully told, and yet is pervaded by a most charming and kindly humor. Every character except the heroine

the Spiritualist mother, who sent messages by a dying woman to her little boy in the other world, and wished she could have sent a package; the fine, manly young heroes—twin brothers; the overbearing professor, who the moment he had lost his spiritual teacher took false lights to guide him; the petulant, lovable squire, and the English woman who was shocked over the absence of ritual at the pastor's funeral services, where the village quartette sing the Psalm of Life, and a loving band sounds on the piano the grand chords of Beethoven's Funeral March.

So long as the author keeps to the delineation of everyday life and character she shows a very delicate insight into the springs of human thought and action. Her heroine however is one of those difficult and complex creations whose individuality is independent of all its associations and traditions. Monza is the orphan daughter of an artist father and an Italian mother, and both by artistic temperament and by race may well be supposed to find a quiet New England village no congenial place of nurture. The good old pastor's teachings have in her case fallen among thorus: what good there is in the girl is choked out by vanity, rebellion, and an absolute lack of sympathy and intelligence. The girl is beautiful, but the mere physical attractiveness of so unlovely a character repulses the reader. When she throws herself away for a married man as coarse and heartless as herself, there is no tragic effect, and the incident seems merely displeasing and trivial. It was probably a part of the author's intention to enforce the moral that had Monza received more definite and personal religious teaching, and held faiths which might have been a substantial help and guidance in the hour of trial, she would have escaped this spiritual shipwreck. But we are ready to predict that Monza would, under any circumstances, whether Catholic or Protestant, free-thinker or devotee, have been the slave of her own vain and lawless impulses. As the author of "A Year in Eden" is one of those whose reactionary tendencies from Puritanism have carried them into the Catholic Church, the reader looks throughout the story for the enforcement of the precept that the pastor's life-long teachings come to nought, that his temples made with hands crumble to pieces, the intellectual sense he has inculcated goes wrong, the lights he has set up for beacons die out. But unless the moral is sought for it may be missed, and the book may easily be accepted simply as a careful picture of New England life, and is sure to be enjoyed for its pleasant and often hum

Modern Idols. Studies in Biography and Criticism. By William Henry Thorne. Pp. 179. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

These criticisms were mostly written for the columns of one of our daily newspapers, and bear marks of this origin. It is not impossible but always improbable that good literary work will be done under such circumstances. Sainte-Beuve and Scherer have done the best of critical work for the feuilletons of Paris dailies, but Le Temps is an exceptional newspaper, and appeals to an exceptional constituency. Literary work which has to compete with headlined sensations on the first page, and keen-edged editorials on the second, is too apt to run into point-making and forced epigram. It is not likely to possess the sobriety which belongs to the work which the world will preserve as an aid to just judgments. And this is the fault of Mr. Thorne's work in his littly volume. He has taken large subjects: Matthew Arnold, Robert Browning, Ole Bull, Robert Burns, Thomas Carlyle, George Eliot and George Sand. He is a facile and vigorous writer, but his style is wanting,—perhaps of necessity, as we have already suggested,—in the repose and dignity which belongs to this genre. Even when he is right, he expresses his opinion in a fashion which must certainly be rasping to a person of quieter tastes. Here is an instance: "If the modern swarm of dudes and infidels and many-voiced secular smart people who think the world was made for them and will end with them, would learn a little wisdom from the vanished years, Mr. Browning is kind enough to hint where that can be had for the sectious handling of such topics as the book includes, even if the author's critical judgment were fully accepted, which it certainly will not be by very many.

#### BRIEFER NOTICES.

A VOLUME pursuing a very different plan from ordinary works of travel in the Holy Land is Rev. Dr. Theodore Appell's "Letters to Boys and Girls about the Holy Land, and the first Christmas at Bethlehem," (Reading, Pa.: D. Miller; Philadelphia: Reformed Church Board of Publication.) Its object is to enlist the interest of young people in the scenery of the country, as related to the great central event which gives that land its chief interest. We think its defect is in seeing no significance in the Old Testament part of the story, except as typical of the events of the New. But apart from this, our author shows a considerable mastery of the materials to his hand, and makes the story as vivid and realistic as is consistent with the dogmatic object he has in view.

Two recent numbers of Cassell's National Library (ten cents each) are of more than usual interest. One contains Sydney Smith's "Peter Plymley's Letters and Selected Essays." Both the letters and the three essays relate to the English mismanagement of Ireland, and form an admirable illustration of the wit and wisdom of the genial English clergyman. There are in the literature of politics few finer instances of the blending of satire, indignation and forcibly stated fact than is found in the argument against the policy of Mr. Percival and Mr. Canning, and in favor of Catholic emancipation, at the time when the refusal of that act of justice threatened to array Ireland with France against England. In reading the letters we have the gratification of seeing past iniquities arraigned with an insight which is prophetic. Sydney Smith was not always on the right side; it is impossible to sympathize with his onslaught on Methodism and on foreign missions; but in treating the Irish question he only falls short of the truth. Mr. Charles Waterton's "Wanderings in South America" is a book which has long been inaccessible to ordinary readers. Yet it is one of much more than ordinary vitality. Mr. Waterton was a close observer, who had the gift of telling what he saw. We believe hwas the first to show the monkey's character as a tree-dwelling animal. He was a man of very marked individuality, and this is reflected in his book. His fierce prejudices are part of the evidence of this, and are amusing rather than repellent.

Sermons are thought, and, we are bound to admit, with some show of reason, to be in general rather uninteresting reading. If all of them, or a considerable proportion of them, had the naturalness, vitality and simple human feeling of a little volume which lies before us, this common impression would be largely modified. The reference is to a collection of eight Unitarian discourses by William C. Gannett and Jenkin Lloyd Jones, published under the title, "The Faith that makes Faithful," by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago. There is little of dogma in these sermons, but there is much that is helpful, hopeful and consoling,—much spiritual wisdow expressed with equal homeliness and eloquence. The volume has charmed us, as we trust and believe it will charm and soothe many thoughtful readers.

Hon. George P. Hansen, a Danish-American who in various ways served his adopted country with credit, was United States Consul at Elsinore during President Lincoln's administration. While making that lengthened sojourn in his native land Mr. Hansen devoted time to literary studies, and especially to the legendary histories upon which Shakespeare based the tragedy of "Hamlet." He printed the result of these researches at the time, but only for private circulation. They have now been given to the public, through Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago, with the title, "The Legend of Hamlet," and they make a valuable contribution to Shakespeariana. There was a veritable Hamlet, but he was an entirely different character from the man we see in Shakespeare, being a Viking of heroic mould, a man of action in a very pronounced sense, a fighter first and last. Moreover his story as it is given by Saxo Grammaticus and other writers of the twelfth century, and as it is here agreeably edited and annotated by Mr. Hansen, is but partially followed by the poet, the supernatural element of the tragedy in particular being a complete invention of Shakespeare's. In fact the dramatist, working as he did in various other instances, merely used such parts of the history—the avenging by a son of the murder of his father, an assumed madness, etc.—as suited his purpose. "The Legend of Hamlet" is a well-designed and carefully-executed study.

"Aphorisms of the Three Threes," by Edward Owings Towne, is a somewhat absurd volume. It is a selection from the profound table-talk of nine gentlemen who constitute a social club and dine together periodically. The smart things said by them were apparently noted by the waiter at these convivial gatherings, and if Edward Owings Towne is that individual we do not see why the authorship is given to him. However, it does not much matter how the credit for the "Aphorisms" is distributed, for they are rather sorry stuff, with their affectations and their revampings of cheap commonplace. Some of the gems of thought are rather long for

aphorisms, covering ten lines or more, and containing four and five complete sentences. (Chas. H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.)

"The Poison Problem," by Felix L. Oswald, M. D., is doubtless an appropriate title for a treatise on the cause and cure of intemperance, (meaning alcoholism), yet it is somewhat vague, for there are other poisons and other poison problems. We make the point because it seems significant of much of the half-way or "popular" science of our time, and of which the writer under notice is a fair exemplar. Dr. Oswald means only to work for good in all he undertakes, we are very well convinced, yet his work always seems to lack the definiteness and authority of complete knowledge and thorough mental training. We would say no word against the purpose of this book, which is altogether good. It will have its effect no doubt, yet as a literary performance it can hardly be called effective. It starts ambitiously from a scientific basis, which is speedily forsaken for a mixture of moral and emotional attacks upon the liquor traffic. In a literary view it is inconsequent,—it is neither pure science, nor morals, nor politics, but a little of each.

#### AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

A BOUT a year ago a scheme was projected in London to issue a series of Welsh texts under the editorship of Prof. Rhys and Mr. J. Guenogvryn Evans. The first volume of the series is now in the binder's hands, and the scheme has met with a fair measure of support.

Mr. Whittier states that he finds it impossible to reply to solicitations which reach him by every mail for autographs, answers to questions, etc. He cannot pretend to examine manuscripts and cannot be responsible for them. He seems to have been much imposed on by people who have no reasonable claim upon him.

The J. B. Lippincott Co. are about to publish, in connection with Adam and Charles Black, Edinburgh, a new library edition of the Waverley novels, in twenty-five volumes.

The publication of Mr. Sala's autobiography has been again postponed, and the book is not likely to be issued before May.—
"The proposition," says the Washington Post, "to pension Walt Whitman is fantastic if not farcical. It would open the Treasury doors to an army of fifty thousand new pensioners, claiming that they nursed some soldier somewhere during the time of trouble."—Mr. B. R. Tucker has projected an English edition of the complete works of Proudhon, to be issued in monthly instalments of sixty-four pages each. In all there will be not far from fifty volumes of 500 pages each,—if the scheme is carried through, which to our mind is extremely doubtful.

On the 1st of January of this year the copyright of Schumann's works expired. His widow, Mdme. Clara Schumann, is about to avail herself of this opportunity of bringing out a complete edition of all her husband's works. With a view to this all the compositions have been most carefully revised by competent editors, who have had the advantage of access to a vast quantity of materials of all kinds left behind by the composer. Some compositions which have not yet seen the light will now be published. The preparations for this critical edition have been going on for seven years. Mdme. Schumann has entrusted the publication to the firm of Breitkopf and Härtel, of Leipzig.

Mr. H. Rider Haggard is decidedly one of the rising men. He owes much to the incentive of Mr. Stephenson, no doubt, but is a writer of original power. His latest book, "She," is a great success. A French translation of his "King Solomon's Mines" is to appear in the "Collection Hetzel."—Queen Victoria has conferred a pension of £100 a year upon the veteran poet and journalist, Mr. Charles Kent.—A movement is on foot in England to secure for Miss Jean Ingelow one of the annuities in the gift of the Crown for services to literature.

Mr. Nimmo the London publisher has made arrangements to produce a work of great interest to students of the stage. It is a biography of theatrical literature, upon which Mr. Robert W. Lowe has been engaged for some years. It aims at giving a complete catalogue, with historical notes, of books and pamphlets on dramatic matters published in Great Britain. Plays are excluded, unless accompanied by prefaces of historical importance. Shakespeariana, too, having already been exhaustively catalogued, do not find a place, unless they bear directly upon the stage presentation of Shakespeare's plays. The work is arranged according to subjects, and with full cross-references. It will be in one volume, octavo.

Mr. Joseph Jacobs has in hand a history of the Jews in England previous to the expulsion.—An interesting book just out in England is Mr. Percy Fitzgerald's "Loves of the Sheridans." Bentley & Son are the publishers.—Rev. James Chalmers is engaged upon a volume on New Guinea, which will form a

sequel to his first book on the "dark island." It will contain the story of the missionary's latest explorations.——Admiral Mehmed Pasha, an Ottoman Naval Officer who was educated in England, has published in Turkish an illustrated work on naval tactics, the first of the kind in that language.——Mr. John Morley will deliver the annual address this year to the Society for the Extension of University Teaching. His subject will be the Study of Literature.

Only 100 copies will be printed of the \$50 vellum-bound edition of "The Book of the Tile Club."—A new and enlarged edition of Prof. Bain's "Rhetoric and Composition" is in preparation by D. Appleton & Co.

Sir J. William Dawson is to prepare for the International Scientific Series a volume on the subject of the development of plants in geological time.—"Livre d'Amour" is the title of a selection of poems made from the French by Mrs. Blanche Haggin of San Francisco, which Scribner & Welford have nearly ready.—There will soon appear in England an unexpurgated series of "The Best Plays of the Old Dramatists," edited with notes by Mr. Swinburne, Mr. Gosse and others.

Mr. T. Wemyss Reid, known to American readers through his monograph on Charlotte Brontë, has resigned the editorship of the Leeds (England) Mercury to become literary adviser to the house of Cassell & Co.—The London Saturday Review emphatically denies the report that the management of the paper is to be changed into a stock company. It had been stated that the owner, Mr. Beresford Hope, was to retire.—There are published in the United States 14,160 newspapers and periodicals of all classes. Of these 700 are religious and denominational papers. About 600 journals are published in German and 40 in French.

In 1862 Langer had one newspaper, which consisted chiefly of

In 1862 Japan had one newspaper, which consisted chiefly of illustrations, and the letter-press was a woodcut also. But after the revolution—that is, after 1868—journalism began for the Japanese. The people got a taste for learning political events, and events followed so rapidly that the taste grew apace. In 1871 a daily paper was started in Yokohama, which seems to have been conducted with Eastern prodigality,—one account says it had seventy contributors on its staff. Notwithstanding it survived. It sells for three cents and has a circulation of 15,000. Its success placed, many rivals in the field, and now even the small towns have their papers. But the year's novelty has been the Review. The idea was new to the Japanese, a literary magazine being quite unknown. And then its print has been quite revolutionary in sovelty. The Review was printed—to the scandal of many eminent citizens—in Roman! Another magazine has now been started in this dreadful revolutionary type!

### PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

FOLLOWING out its plan of presenting vigorous essays on "live" topics, *The Forum*, at the end of its second volume, and first full year, makes a strong array of contributors, and a striking list of subjects. The editor may congratulate himself on having helped materially in the discussion of many important questions. In the February number, Prof. Boyesen, of Cornell, considers "Why we have no great novelists," and thinks it mainly is because the readers of novels in this country are young women and girls whose tastes do not call for, or even tolerate, fiction of a "great" order,—George Eliot's or Tolstoï's for example.

The Swiss Cross, the monthly publication representing the Agassiz Association, issued its first number under the date of January. The editor is Mr. H. H. Ballard, of Pittsfield, Mass., president of the Association, and the publishers are The Science Company, owners of Science. The new magazine supersedes the department in St. Nicholas which has for sometime represented the Agassiz Association, and which has no doubt done much to develop a taste for the "personal study of nature" among young people. The contents of the first issue have a pleasing variety, and relate to many subjects of living interest.

#### ART NOTES.

THE Legislature of Pennsylvania has decided to send to the American exhibition in London the picture of the Battle of Gettysburg painted for the State by Peter F. Rothermel. This great battle, the decisive action of the Civil War, was fought on Pennsylvania soil, and won largely by the valor of Pennsylvania's sons, commanded by a Pennsylvania leader. It is an event of the first importance in the history of America, and one which the Keystone commonwealth will never cease to regard with pride, tempered only by the fact that it was a contest between brethren. The picture commemorating the battle is held in such popular esteem that the representatives of the people assembled at Harrisburg were slow to incur the risks attendant upon sending it across the Atlantic for six months or more. But it is insured for \$25,000, the sum it originally cost, and for this sum Mr. Rothermel has

agreed to reproduce it in case of loss. The artist has all the studies and sketches which he made for the work, including the portraits, and is confident of his ability to make a replica of equal value.

One reason which doubtless has weight in inducing the Legislature to loan the picture was the claim our English friends established on our consideration in 1876. Queen Victoria then sent to the Centennial Exhibition six most highly valued paintings; the Royal Academy loaned twenty of its choicest treasures, and many private collections were laid under contribution to grace our celebration. These works were priceless; no money could measure their worth, and if any injury or loss had been sustained, it would probably have been irreparable, as the artists represented men for the most part dead and gone. Courtesy begets courtesy, and the recollection of the good-will shown to us ten years ago naturally awakened a disposition to respond in kind when the proposition to send the Gettysburg picture to London came before our legislators.

send the Gettysburg picture to London came before our legislators. At the Water-Color Exhibition in New York, Philadelphia paintérs are not very fully represented. Mr. Wm. T. Richards has two landscapes of considerable importance, namely, "The Cliffs of St. Colomb, Cornwall," Catalogue No. 317; and "A Country Road," No. 268. Mr. Prosper L. Senat has three marine and shore views, local studies made during the past summer on the coast of Maine. No. 74, "On the Harbor Bar," is a scene at Kennebunkport; No. 527, "The Harbor Entrance," is from the same location, and No. 493, "Cape Arundel," is another illustration of the stern and rock-bound coast in that neighborhood. Mr. Thomas B. Craig has a Pennsylvania rural landscape with cattle, entitled "At Pasture," No. 525. Miss E. F. Bonsall has a scene at Gloucester, Cape Ann, "August Morning," No. 102. Mr. De Crano has two sketches made during his recent sojourn in Italy—No. 235, "What I saw from my window in Venice," and No. 211, "A Chilly Morning, Florence."

The Sharples portraits which were shown at the Academy of Fine Arts recently, are now on exhibition in a Chestnut Street gallery at twenty-five cents admission. As these portraits attracted very little attention at the Academy, where people could see them for nothing if they wanted to, it seems a questionable venture to offer them to the public at twenty-five cents per head admission. The trouble is that some of these pictures have been so glaringly sophisticated, so plainly tampered with, that the entire collection is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of suspicion. No one likes to be humbugged, and nothing will more quickly repel interest than an appearance of chicane. There is however one portrait that Philadelphians should be attracted to, namely that of Joseph Priestley. This picture is fairly well painted, is life-like, and represents a strongly marked character. It is not one of those which have been "restored" and doctored to death, and, if duly authenticated, as it can be if a genuine original portrait of Priestley, it would be a valuable possession for this city to retain.

A monument to the memory of John Brown, to be erected by

A monument to the memory of John Brown, to be erected by the colored people of America, has been talked of from time to time for several years past. No definite project has been formulated, and the suggestions made have varied all the way from a bronze statue at Harper's Ferry to a grand national memorial at Washington, costing not less than a million dollars. Several local associations have been formed in different parts of the country to promote the general object or to carry out some special one, and finally a convention has been held to consider the matter. The meeting assembled last week at Columbus, Ohio, Rev. John Poindexter, of Cincinnati, being made chairman. The ideas and purposes represented at this gathering were so diverse that no definite agreement was arrived at, but a committee on plans was constituted with instructions to endeavor to awaken interest among the people and in due time to call a national convention.

A despatch from London, this week, says: "The Duke of Westminster has parted with Sir John Everett Millais's portrait of Mr. Gladstone. Political estrangement, not hard times, is the cause of this singular step. The Duke of Westminster wrote, not long since, to Mr. Agnew, the picture dealer, saying that he would dispose of the portrait if he could find a purchaser at three thousand guineas. Mr. Agnew offered it to Sir Charles Tennant, formerly member of Parliament for Selkirkshire, who at once accepted the offer, and the picture is now at his country house,—The Glen, in Peeblesshire. The Duke of Westminster clears a thousand guineas by this transaction, and Sir Charles Tennant becomes the owner of the first portrait of Mr. Gladstone ever painted by Sir John E. Millais, who has since painted three—one a replica in Mr. Gladstone's possession, one for Christ Church, Oxford, and one for Lord Rosebery; the first and last being by far the finest of the series.

American Art is a new monthly, established at Boston, of which the issue for February is No. 5. Its field includes Painting, Engraving, Sculpture, Architecture, Decoration, and the Industrial Arts;—which would seem to leave hardly anything to be de-

sired. A very charming frontispiece in the January issue is a photo-etching in color, of a "Cape Breton Fisher Boy," and the letter-press is liberally illustrated. The literary contents include articles on plate printing, by Joseph H. Wheeler, "The Popularizaretter-press is interally illustrated. The literary contents include articles on plate printing, by Joseph H. Wheeler, "The Popularization of Art," by Sidney Dickinson, and other interesting papers, while there are also "departments" of "Comment and Review," "Home Decoration," "Monthly Record of Art," etc., etc., the last named being by Mr. Roger Riordan.

SCIENCE NOTES.

THE plans of the bridge which the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad The plans of the bridge which the Baltimore & Onio Ralifoad proposed to erect over the passage known as Arthur Kill, have been submitted to the War Department engineers, and disapproved by that body. The reasons for the disapproval are specified in a report of the Secretary of War made in response to a resolution of the Senate. The Arthur Kill is the body of water connecting New York Bay with Raritan Bay, and the report states that the report of fraight which anywalls respect the site of the that the amount of freight which annually passes the site of the proposed bridge will approach 5,750,000 or 6,000,000 tons, an amount in excess of the tonnage of foreign commerce cleared from New York for 1885. Of this vast amount of freight probably ninetenths is in tows, sometimes reaching 70 vessels to one tow. tows are usually made up of five vessels abreast, and are eight vessels long, and their dimensions are 100 to 125 feet in width by about 800 feet long. Under the plan submitted by the Staten Island Rapid Transit Company, such masses of vessels are to pass through a clear opening between piers about 200 feet wide. The experience at the draw at the mouth of the Raritan River, through which only about one-third as much freight passes as through the Arthur Kill, and which has 207-feet draw openings, shows that the draw at that place is a serious obstruction to navigation, and has caused considerable losses from delays and collisions. The has caused considerable losses from delays and collisions. The tows to go north through the Arthur Kill pass the proposed site of the bridge while the tide is running flood, and when any collision would produce great damage. They are much larger than those passing through the Raritan draw, and it is impracticable for these large tows to anchor, as the smaller ones do, at the Raritan draw. The board is, therefore, of the opinion that if a bridge were constructed as proposed, with a pier in the middle of the Kill, it would make necessary a large reduction in the size of the tows, and a consequent increase in the cost of transportation Kill, it would make necessary a large reduction in the size of the tows, and a consequent increase in the cost of transportation. The proposed bridge, the report says, is also of insufficient height, the lowest part of the superstructure being only 34 feet 8 inches above mean low water. For these reasons the board recommends a bridge whose channel span shall give a clear opening of 459 feet; whose span next west shall be a draw span, giving 125 feet clear opening, the lowest parts of these spans being fifty feet above mean high water. The foundations of the pier should be so arranged as to admit future deepening of the Kill to 20 feet.

An incenious method of utilizing the heat of the sun has been

An ingenious method of utilizing the heat of the sun has been invented by Prof. Morse, of Salem, Mass., and although it can hardly be said to have attained as yet the position of a commercial success, it gives promise of further developing which may make it hardly be said to have attained as yet the position of a commercial success, it gives promise of further developing which may make it such. The device consists simply of a shallow box of corrugated iron with a glass top. This is exposed to the direct rays of the sun by being placed in a suitable position on the house-top, and if the sun is shining brightly the iron, and of course also the air in the box, become very hot. A system of ventilation is necessary to carry this heated air over the house. The inventor on pleasant days obtained with this apparatus a temperature of 90° in the room into which the warmed air was introduced.

A Calcutte dispatch states that the second girder of the

Calcutta dispatch states that the second girder of the new Hooghly railway bridge has been successfully placed in position. This bridge is the first cantilever bridge erected in India, and although smaller than the one now under construction at Sukkur, is yet entitled to rank among engineering works of the first magnitude. Its total length is 1200 feet. It consists of three spans, the centre one being 360 feet and each of the others 420 feet long. The work has been carried on for the last three or four years under the able superintendence of Mr. Bradford Leslie, who was unfortunately prevented by illness from witnessing the practical completion of his great task. The girder weighed over 1000 tons, yet so admirable were the arrangements that the enormous mass was carried over a distance of 420 feet, and dropped into its exact position in an hour. All that now remains to be done is comparatively easy; and it is hoped that the bridge will be completed, and Calcutta brought into direct railway communication with upper India in March.

An alarming explosion took place recently on board the Petronia, a steamer lying in Birkenhead Dock, Liverpool, whereby five It seems the Petronia, which was constructed to bring petroleum from Batoum in iron tanks—the first vessel of this class—when off Sielly sprang a leak, and on arriving in Liver-pool was placed in dock for examination. She was subsequently

ordered to Birkenhead for repairs, which having been done, an examination was made of the vessel. A party of ten men descended into the petroleum tank in the hold of the steamer. They took with them a naked light, and a terrible explosion followed. Six with them a naked light, and a terrible explosion lollowed. Six managed to scramble out terribly burnt, but four others were missing. A diver fully equipped was sent down into the tank, and, after some search, discovered the lifeless bodies of Captain Kirkwright, Mr. Fawcas, consulting engineer, Mr. Mavor, manager for Hawthorn, Leslie & Co., by whom the vessel was built; and who superintended the renairs, and John Crosby, a laborer. Notwithsuperintended the repairs, and John Crosby, a laborer. Notwith-standing the force of the explosion no damage was done to the vessel. Another of the men injured has since died.

#### WHY WE HAVE NO GREAT NOVELISTS.1

why we have not the explosion no damage was done to the vessel. Another of the men injured has since died.

WHY WE HAVE NO GREAT NOVELISTS!

Dut there are other forces at work, in our literature, which are more permanently injurious. Chief among these I hold to be the fact that the Another of the control of the control

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>From an article by Prof. Boyesen, in The Forum for February

ard, a distinct descent to a lower plane of thought or thoughtlessness. A weak lemonade mixture, harmless and mildly exhilarating, adapted for the palates of ingénues, is poured out in a steady stream from our presses, and we all drink it, and, from patriotic motives, declare it to be good. When, however, we read a novel like Tolstoi's "Anna Karénina," or Daudet's "Le Nabob," we appreciate, perhaps, the difference between a literature addressed to girls and a literature intended for men and women.

Lamby no means blind to the fact that we have among us the hearing in the fact that we have among us the hearing in the fact that we have among us the hearing in the fact that we have among us the hearing in the fact that we have among us the hearing in the fact that we have among us the hearing in the fact that we have among us the hearing in the fact that we have among us the hearing in the fact that we have among us the hearing in the fact that we have a fact that we have a

bob," we appreciate, perhaps, the difference between a literature addressed to girls and a literature intended for men and women.

I am by no means blind to the fact that we have among us the beginning of what promises to be a sounder and more serious school of fiction. Mr. Howells deserves, in my opinion, the thanks of all the lovers of literature for his frank and fearless attacks, both by precept and example, upon the worn-out romantic ideals. As long as it is expected of the novelist that he shall spin ingenious and entertaining yarns, his art is not bound by the laws of reality, and is free to degenerate into all sorts of license. As long as a crude public taste found more pleasure in the abnormal than the normal, the popular novelist was forced, like Wilkie Collins and Gaboriau, to ransack the records of police courts and lunatic asylums in search of startling incidents; and the novel swarmed with villains and their victims. As a picture of life, such fiction was worse than worthless. It exists, of course, yet, and has a large public; but it is, in great part, due to Mr. Howells that readers who lay claim to literary culture now repudiate it. His long series of novels in "The Atlantic" and "The Century" have dealt uniformly with American themes, and have drawn within the domain of fiction hitherto unexplored types and phases of our national life. In "A Modern Instance," and "The Rise of Silas Lapham," he has penetrated more deeply into the heart of reality, as it manifests itself on this side of the Atlantic, than any previous novelist, and has made it easier for those who shall follow after him to rely upon insight, style, and knowledge of the world for success, and to dispense with the crude devices of the sensationalist. If he has not, like Zola and Claretie in France, and Spielhagen and Freytag in Germany, undertaken to grapple with the social problems of the day, this may be in part due to a temperamental aversion for polemics, and partly to the training which the monthly magazine gives to all its co

be in part due to a temperamental aversion for polemics, and partly to the training which the monthly magazine gives to all its contributors, keeping them in the safe track of uncontested generalities. The editor, being anxious to keep all his old subscribers and secure new ones, requires of his contributor that he shall offend no one.

In all the countries of Europe, except England, the literary conditions are, in this respect, very different. There the monthly magazine (without which American authorship scarcely could exist) has not attained the prominence or the development that it has reached in our prosperous democracy. The majority of the German periodicals appeal to a definite class of readers, and are not afraid of proclaiming (in signed articles) the most tremendous social and religious heresies. Publications like the "Gartenlaube" and "Westermann's Deutsche Monatshefte," which are especially addressed to the prosperous bourgeoisie, exact the same conservatism of their contributors as do our magazines, but the "Deutsche Rundschau" obviously emulates the "Revue des Deux Mondes," in the scope it gives to radical opinions, as long as the literary excellence is sufficient to keep the tale or discussion on a high intellectual plane. The consequence is that the "Gartenlaube" has developed a peculiar kind of female novelist, of which Marlitt, Werner, and Fanny Lewald are the most conspicuous representatives. They are safe, conservative, and romantic; and, accordingly, very popular in translations with the patrons of our circulating libraries. Writers like Spielhagen and Freytag, on the other hand, prefer to seek their first publicity in the feuilletons of the daily papers, which impose no restraints upon them in the interest of tender readers.

#### THE RETALIATORY FISHERIES BILL.

THE RETALIATORY FISHERIES BILL.

The following is the full text of the bill passed by the Senate on the 24th: An Act to authorize the President of the United States to protect and defend the rights of American fishing vessels, American fishermen, American trading and other vessels, in certain cases, and for other purposes. That whenever the President of the United States shall be satisfied that American fishing vessels or American fishermen, visiting or being in the waters or at any ports or places of the British dominions of North America, are then or lately have been denied or abridged in the enjoyment of any rights secured to them by treaty or law, or are or then lately have been unjustly vexed or harassed in the enjoyment of such rights or subjected to unreasonable restrictions, regulations, or requirements in respect of such rights, or otherwise unjustly vexed or harassed in said waters, ports or places, or whenever the President of the United States shall be satisfied that any such fishing vessels or fishermen having a permit under the laws of the United States to touch and trade at any port or ports, place or places, in the British dominions of North America are or then lately have been denied the privilege of entering such port or ports, place or places, in the same manner and under the same regulations as may exist therein applicable to trading vessels of the most favored nation; or shall be unjustly vexed or harassed in respect thereof or otherwise unjustly vexed or harassed in said waters, ports or places, or shall be prevented from purchasing such supplies as may there be lawfully sold to trading vessels of the most favored nations, or whenever the President of the United States shall be satisfied that any other vessels of the United States, their masters or crews so arriving at, or being in British waters or ports, or places of the British dominions of North America, are, or then lately have been, denied any of the privileges therein accorded to the vessels, their masters or crews, of the most favo

to the United States. The President may, in his discretion, apply such proclamation to any part or to all the foregoing-named subjects, and may revoke, qualify, limit and renew such proclamation from time to time, as he may deem necessary to the full and just execution of the purposes of this act. Every violation of any such proclamation, or any part thereof, is hereby declared illegal, and all vessels and goods so coming or being within the waters, ports or places of the United States contrary to such proclamation, shall be forfeited to the United States; and such forfeiture shall be enforced and proceeded upon in the same manner and with the same effect as in the case of vessels or goods whose importation or coming to or being in the waters or ports of the United States contrary to law may now be enforced and case of vessels or goods whose importation or coming to or being in the war-ters or ports of the United States contrary to law may now be enforced and proceeded upon. Every person who shall violate any of the provisions of this act, or such proclamation of the President, made in pursuance hereof, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$1000 or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or by both said punishments in the discretion of the

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

LIFE OF THOMAS HART BENTON. (American Statesmen.) By Theodore Roosevelt. Pp. 372. \$1.25. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THE WORKS OF HUBERT HOWE BANCROFT. Volume XXXII.—History of British Columbia, 1792-1887. 8vo. Pp. 792. San Francisco: The History Company, Publishers.

THE POEMS OF SIR JOHN SUCKLING. A new edition, with Preface and Notes. Edited by Frederick A. Stokes. Pp. 218. \$——. New York: White, Stokes & Allen.

THE LAY OF THE LAST MINSTREL. By Sir Walter Scott, Bart. Edited, with notes, by William J. Rolfe. Pp. 241. \$0.75. Boston: Ticknor & Co. On the Susquehanna. A Novel. By William A. Hammond. Pp. 412. \$1.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

In an address before the Association of Swiss Geographical Societies —In an address before the Association of Swiss Geographical Societies Prof. Forel stated that there are two parts in the Lake of Geneva, one small and shallow, the other large, deep and Alpine in its character. The two are separated by the Yvoise bank or bar, which is really a glacial moraine, as shown by the flints dredged up. Knowledge of the central portion of the lake is still very incomplete. The fragments of rock, sometimes brought up from a depth of 61 metres, are covered with moss of a beautiful green—a fact that seems to show that light penetrates to that depth. It has been discovered that the river Rhone flows in a sublacustrine ravine.

—It is to be board that Mr. Tom. Connery, late managing editor of the

—It is to be hoped that Mr. Tom. Connery, late managing editor of the New York Herald, before he starts for his new post as secretary of the legation of the United States in Mexico, will consult some of the officials who have recently been to that part of the world, in relation to the effect of the high altitudes on new comers.—Hartford Courant.

the high altitudes on new comers.—Hartford Courant.

—The London Times devotes three columns to a review of Mr. Browning's new porm, "Parleyings with Certain People." The volume, it says, requires study, but will repay all the trouble bestowed, for it contains many deep and noble thoughts and many passages instinct with high poetic inspiration. It styles Mr. Browning the "gnarled, knotted oak in the forest of English literature; but the studious reader soon forgets the burrs upon the trunk, and admires the strength, massiveness and umbrageousness of the tree." "If the present volume," concludes the reviewer, "accentuates one truth more than another, it is that the longer the poet lives the stronger becomes his faith in Humanity, Nature and God."

—A Boston letter of January 31st says: "David A. Wasson, one of the

comes his faith in Humanity, Nature and God."

—A Boston letter of January 31st says: "David A. Wasson, one of the most intellectual men of the newer school of thinkers in the state, died last week in a town just out of Boston. He was as lovely in character as he was refued in his spiritual nature. His writings were greatly admired in their day, but had not the popular element that gave them general reading. Is some respects he closely resembled Emerson, and he was chosen by Theodore Parker's society to preach to them after Mr. Parker died. His health was always poor, and it interfered with his success in more than one instance. Once he took a desk in the Boston custom house and wrote there to eke out a slender income. At last he became almost totally blind, and in this state gradually declined in health for years. Only a few friends had known much of him for a considerable time before he died.

—In Nevada and California, we have not only the common gray species

known much of him for a considerable time before he died.

—In Nevada and California, we have not only the common gray species of rabbits, but also the large jack rabbit and the even larger white hare. These are all natives of the country. They have probably been here for ages, and are doubtless as prolific as are the rabbits in Australia; therefore the whole country should have been swarming with them when first visited by the whites, had there not been something to keep them down. They were probably kept within bounds here by the wolves, wildcats, lynxes and other carnivorous animals. The Australians introduced the rabbits no longer ago than 1860 for the purpose of sport, and fine sport they have had with them. They should now plant their land with wolves and wildcats, and should cultivate owls and hawks. It is probable, however, that, owing to the general prevalence of the sheep industry, the wolf cure would be about as bad as the disease. In former times our Piute Indians slaughtered immense numbers of rabbits. Before the coming of the whites they almost lived on rabbits, and all their cloaks and sleeping robes were made of the skins of the animals. They instituted rabbit drives, and at those round-ups of the long-eared cattle swept into nets spread for the purpose all the rabbits of a large area of country. In Australia much might be done by means of similar drives or circular hunts but for the fact that the small gray rabbit is a burrowing animal, and pops into its hole with about as much celerity as the prairie dog.—Salt Lake Tribune.

Billious Disorders, Liver Complaints, Costiveness, Dyspepsia, &c., are speedily re-

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—Mr. George H. Glazier, of this city—a brother of Captain Willard Glazier, who claims to have discovered the lake that is the actual source of the Mississippi River, to which his name was given—has recently returned from Minnesota, where he has been collecting evidence to substantiate the claim of his brother to that discovery. He brings many testimonies from State officials, teachers and others, tending to show that the lake in question is the actual source of the Mississippi, and that his brother's claim to the discovery and to the name of the lake are not unfounded.—Chicago Journal.

—Land in the city of London increases in value despite the general depression. A lot of only 296 square feet on Cheapside was lately sold for £14,050. This is at the rate of more than £1,500,000 an acre.

—When Frank B. Stockton, the writer of short stories, first came to this city he was asked by one of those present at a dinner given in his honor to solve the mystery which hangs about the story of "The Lady and the Tiger." Before Mr. Stockton could answer, a gentleman suggested that the pleasure of having written so successful a story must be considerably diminished by being so frequently asked to tell its sequel. Mr. Stockton laughed and said:

"It is very true; I have been requested more than once to inform curious readers whether the princess directed her lover to the jaws of the tiger or to the arms of the beautiful lady, but as I didn't know I couldn't satisfy them. I finally decided to have it settled for me, and when I was at Wellesley College I left the decision to the young ladies of that institution. Eighteen of them voted that the princess would sooner have sacrificed her lover than have seen him wed the lady, against six who voted to let him live. I think women can best judge their own sex, and I am satisfied to abide by the Wellesley decision."—Albany Journal.

abide by the Wellesley decision."—Albany Journal.

—The fruit dealers of Chicago admit that California can raise the finest fruits in the world, and that they would be very glad to handle California fruits in preference to foreign fruits; but unfortunately the California fruit men, they say, have a bad trick of putting up inferior goods under standard labels. For instance a box of raisins will have a thin layer of prime raisins on top, while the rest will be almost worthless. Moreover, it is said the California fruit men do not appear to realize how important it is nowadays to pack goods in attractive packages. The California fruit raisers would do well to heed these criticisms.

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To an early number of this periodical Mr. Moneure D. Conway will contribute a picturesque chapter on Fredericksburg, Virginia, and among its choice illustrations will be found a fac-simile of the will of Mary Washington, made directly from the original, by permission of the authorities of that interesting old town. The scries of papers on "The Benefactors of New York," some time store announced, will also be introduced into an early issue; while several other subjects of the highest interest to all readers, of every class or of any age, with thoroughness of text and wealth of illustration, are in active preparation for our pages.

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## THE AMERICAN.

VOLUME VIII.

BEGUN OCTOBER 1886.

THE AMERICAN aims at an honorable standard in literary excellence, an independent and fearless course a catholic and fair-minded relation to controverted questions, and the study of the hopeful side of human

Designing to justify its name, it represents unhesitatingly the form and substance of American Perceiving no superiority in foreign institutions, it prefers those of its own country, and seeks to perfect them. It demands American independence, and denounces American subjection. It believes that subjection of American industry, or mechanical skill, or commerce, to the grasp of other nations, is a foolish and fatal policy. It holds the view that the social condition of our workmen is largely dependent on the Protective policy that guards them against the cheap and degraded labor of other countries, and that from every point of view a lowering of that social condition would be deplorable. therefore advocates a true Protective Tariff, designed to foster no monopoly, but to shield from destructiv competition every legitimate industry suited to the natural conditions of the country.

#### SOME RECENT EXPRESSIONS.

From Iowa:

Enclosed find . . . . I am inquiring with myself what papers I can spare my poor eyes the pain, (or pleasure?) of reading, and cannot put THE AMERICAN on the list. Its "Review of the Week" is the best that I see.

From New York (State):

I deem THE AMERICAN one of the best, if not the best, of the secular papers that come to me Certainly there is not one that I read with more satisfaction and profit. I am happy to show it to my friends, and commend it.

From North Carolina:

I have received THE AMERICAN during the last year, and have read each issue as soon after it was in hand as my engagements would allow. . . . . I have found it interesting and instructive in every issue.

From a Member of the U.S. Senate:

I find nearly always something profitable for me to read in each number.

From an American in Europe:

I never lay down the number of The American without thinking I will write to say what a good paper I think it is. I have just read in it a most sensible article on the Silver Question. It is sometimes too Pennsylvanian in its views both of Tariff and Currency for a New Englander like myself, but in the main there is no paper which I read with so general assent and satisfaction.



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President, John B. Garrett.

Vice-President and Treasurer, Henry Tatnall, Actuary, William P. Huston.

Assistant Treasurer, William N. Ely. Solicitor, Effingham B. Morris.

INSURANCE AT ACTUAL COST. CHARTERED 1835

NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE INSUR-ANCE COMPANY,

BOSTON,

SURPLUS - - - - - \$2,395,450.73

No speculative features. Annual returns of surplus. Yearly progressive cash values fixed by Massachusetts law, indorsed on every policy. Equal to an interest-bearing bond, with insurance at nominal cost. An excellent collateral. No forfeiture. Attention is also called to the NEW FEATURE IN LIFE INSURANCE adopted by this company, of issuing Endowment Policies for precisely the same premium heretofore charged for whole Life Policies.

BENJ. F. STEVENS.

JOS. M. GIBBENS.

President.

Secretary

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MARSTON & WAKELIN, - GENERAL AGENTS, No. 133 S. Fourth Street, Philadelphia;

RAILROADS.

## BALTIMORE & OHIO R. R.

IN EFFECT SEPTEMBER 19, 1886.

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